

6 hemolysing the whole blood sample with the hemolysis reagent to
7 hemolyse the blood corpuscles;

8 reacting the hemolysed whole blood sample in an agglutination reaction to
9 form an agglutination reaction product wherein a predetermined antigen in the hemolysed
10 whole blood sample specifically reacts with an antibody immobilized onto an insoluble
11 carrier;

12 irradiating the agglutination reaction product in the hemolysed whole
13 blood sample with radiation which includes a wavelength range which is free from
14 absorption by both hemoglobin and the hemolysis reagent; and

15 measuring, only in a wavelength range which is free from absorption by
16 both hemoglobin and the hemolysis reagent, an absorbance of the incident radiation with
17 the agglutination reaction product to determine the quantity of antigens in the sample.

1 14. (New) The agglutination immunoassay method of Claim 13 further
2 including the step of determining the CRP component in plasma in the hemolysed whole
3 blood sample.

1 15. (New) The agglutination immunoassay method of Claim 13 wherein the
2 wavelength range is approximately at 800 nm for measuring.

1 16. (New) An agglutination immunoassay method of quantifying a
2 predetermined antigen in a sample of whole blood, comprising the steps of:

3 providing a sample of whole blood;

4 treating the sample of whole blood with one of a step of (1) hemolysing
5 the whole blood with a hemoglobin reagent, and a step of (2) causing an agglutination

6 reaction of the whole blood with an antibody immobilized on an insoluble carrier particle
7 to form an agglutination reaction product;
8 treating the sample of whole blood with the other of steps (1) and (2); and
9 measuring the resulting degree of agglutination of a plasma component of
10 the sample of whole blood by a change in an absorbance of the agglutination reaction
11 product with light of a wavelength free from absorption by both hemoglobin of the
12 sample of whole blood and the hemolysis reagent.

1 17. (New) The agglutination immunoassay method of Claim 16 further
2 including the step of determining the CRP component in plasma in the hemolysed whole
3 blood sample.

1 18. (New) The agglutination immunoassay method of Claim 16 wherein the
2 wavelength is approximately 800 nm for measuring.

1 19. (New) A particle agglutination immunoassay method of quantifying a
2 predetermined antigen in a sample of whole blood, comprising the steps of:

3 providing a sample of the whole blood;
4 adding a hemolysis reagent to the sample of whole blood;
5 hemolysing blood corpuscles in the sample of whole blood to enable a
6 subsequent immunoreaction;
7 adding a latex reagent to the hemolysed whole blood;
8 providing an agglutination reaction with the hemolysed whole blood
9 sample to form an agglutination reaction product of particles wherein a predetermined

10 antigen in the hemolysed whole blood sample reacts with an antibody immobilized on an
11 insoluble carrier particle to provide the agglutination reaction product;

12 irradiating the agglutination reaction product in the hemolysed whole
13 blood sample with radiation which includes a wavelength of approximately 800 nm
14 which is substantially free from absorption by both hemoglobin and the hemolysis
15 reagent; and

16 measuring, only with the wavelength of approximately 800 nm, a change
17 in absorbance of the incident radiation by the agglutination reaction product to determine
18 the quantity of antigens in the sample.

1 20. (New) The particle agglutination immunoassay method of Claim 19
2 wherein the hemolysing reagent is saponin.

1 21. (New) The particle agglutination immunoassay method of Claim 19
2 wherein the measuring also determines CRP of plasma components in the hemolysed
3 whole blood sample.

1 22. (New) The immunoassay system of Claim 8 wherein the means for
2 measuring includes a light source for providing irradiation at a wavelength of
3 approximately 800 nm.

1 23. (New) The immunoassay method of Claim 9 wherein the wavelength
2 range is at approximately 800 nm.